



Liberty – Equality – Fraternity
FRENCH REPUBLIC

Welcome to France

You have been admitted to reside in the territory of the Republic of France, a member state of the European Union.

Each year, some 100,000 foreigners come to live in France, from many different cultures and countries. Like you, for more than a hundred years, other people have come and made their lives here.

They have taken part in its development and its modernisation. Some, sometimes at the cost of their liberty or their life, have taken up arms to defend the country.

France and the French are attached to a history, a culture and certain fundamental values. In order to live together, it is necessary to know about them and to respect them. That is why, in the context of a welcome and integration contract, we request that you follow a day of civic training in order to better understand the country in which you are to live.

France, a democracy

France is an indivisible republic that is secular, democratic and social.

Power is based on the sovereignty of the people, expressed via universal suffrage open to all French citizens aged over 18.

On several public buildings, you can see the words “Liberty, Equality, Fraternity” inscribed. This motto is that of the Republic of France.

France, a country of rights and duties

The Declaration of Human and Citizens’ Rights in 1789 proclaims that all men are born and remain free and equal in rights, regardless of their origin, their condition or their fortune.

France guarantees the respect of fundamental rights, namely:

- liberty, which is expressed in many forms: liberty of opinion, freedom of expression, liberty to gather, freedom of movement, etc.
- security, which guarantees protection by the public powers of people and goods by the Authorities,
- personal property rights.

Foreigners who have acquired regularised status have the same rights and the same duties as French people, except the right to vote, which remains linked to

nationality, and must respect the laws and principles of the French Republic.

Whether it sanctions or protects, the law is the same for everyone, with no distinction on grounds of origin, race or religion.

France, a secular country

In France, religion is part of the private domain.

Each person may have the religious beliefs of their choosing or not have any. The State respects all beliefs and freedom of worship, as long as they do not disrupt public order.

The State is independent of all religions and monitors the application of the principles of tolerance and liberty.

France, a country of equality

Equality between men and women is a fundamental principle of French society. Women have the same rights and the same duties as men. Parents are jointly responsible for their children. This principle is applied to all, French people and foreigners alike. Women are not subject either to the authority of their husband or to that of their father or brother, for example in terms of work, going out or opening a bank account. Forced marriages and polygamy are forbidden, while the integrity of the body is protected by law.

Knowing the French language, a necessity

The French language is one of the fundamentals of national unity. Knowledge of French is thus essential to your integration, and will encourage contact with the entire population.

That is why you must have a level of knowledge in terms of the French language which allows you, for example, to undertake administrative procedures, to register your children at school, to find work and to take part fully in life in your area. If you do not have this level when you arrive in France, you must acquire it by following a training course approved via diploma recognised by the State. Registration at this free training course is done through the National Agency for the Welcome of Foreigners and Migrations.

Schooling is the basis for the professional success of your children. In France, state schooling is free. Schooling is compulsory from 6 to 16 years of age. Boys and girls study together in all classes.



Integration and welcome contract

LIBERTY EQUALITY FRATERNITY

Preamble

The integration of diverse populations demands mutual tolerance and the respect by all, French people and foreigners alike, of rules, laws and customs.

Choosing to live in France means having the willingness to adapt to French society, and accepting the fundamental values of the Republic.

That is why you must prepare to this end for your republican integration into French society by signing the integration and welcome contract scheduled by article L-311-9 of the code for entry and stay of foreigners and the right to asylum.

This contract is concluded between the State, represented by the *préfet* of the regional department

and Ms – Miss – Mr.....

Article 1: State commitments

The State undertakes all of the following provisions:

- a collective welcome meeting;
- a medical examination allowing the delivery of temporary residence documents;
- an individual interview allowing in particular to assess the level of knowledge of the French language of the contract signatory;
- if required:
 - a linguistic assessment;
 - an interview with a social worker, including if necessary a social diagnosis and the implementation of individualised social support;
- a day of civic training presenting the fundamental rights principles and values of the Republic, as well as the institutions of France;
- if necessary, linguistic training, the duration of which is set in accordance with the learning abilities and needs of the person (DILF);
- an information session about life in France whose objective is to facilitate understanding of French society and access to public services;
- specific information about access to the public service of employment and professional training, and if need be, a professional skills assessment carried out by the National Agency for Employment (known as ANPE), allowing the creation or redirecting of an employment access project.

Article 2: Commitments of the contract signatory

Ms/Miss/Mr.

whose level of knowledge of the French language is judged as satisfactory/unsatisfactory (cross out the inappropriate response) commits himself / herself to:

take part in the civic training day and the information session about life in France:

attend the linguistic training course regularly when thus assigned, destined to allow them to reach a satisfactory level in French, as well as to sit the examination organised after the training course in order to obtain the initial French language diploma (DILF);

- attend interviews set up in order to monitor the contract.

The foreigner's attendance at each of the training courses scheduled is confirmed by a personalised certificate issued by the ANAEM.

Article 3: Contract duration

This contract is concluded for a duration of one year. Exceptionally, it may be extended by the *préfet* for one additional year, in order to start to or complete a scheduled training course. In this case, the closure of the contract occurs at the end of the training course in question, under conditions communicated to the signatory by the ANAEM.

Article 4: Contract monitoring

Creation and completion of the contract is subject to administrative monitoring and assessment by the ANAEM. At the end of the contract, the Agency checks that the training or information actions recorded in the contract have effectively been undertaken, and delivers the signatory with a personalised summary certificate which specifies the methods of their approval. This certificate is transmitted to the *préfet* who may take into account, upon the first renewal of the temporary residence documents, the non-respect of the commitments made in the context of the contract.

Article 5: Respect of the contract

The signatory is notified that the *préfet*:

- may terminate the contract in the event of non-participation in a scheduled training course or in the event of giving up mid-way through a training course, with no legitimate motive;
- takes into account the signature of the contract and the respect that this implies for the appreciation of the condition regarding republican integration by the foreigner into French society required for delivery of the residency permit.

Contract no.:	
Drafted in	On.....
The "Préfet" of the "Département"	Ms, Miss, Mr.
	For minors, the legal representative

Ministry for Employment, Social Cohesion, and Housing
National Agency for the Welcome of Foreigners and Migrations